

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 580

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Barbara Ector upon receiving the American Civic Education Teacher Award for 2007.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Ector is one such estimable educator, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Ector was one of only three educators across the nation to receive the distinguished American Civic Education Teacher Award for 2007, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, presented by the Center for Civic Education, the Center on Congress at Indiana University, and the National Education Association, the American Civic Education Teacher Award recognizes those outstanding teachers in the field of civic education who serve as community and educational leaders; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ector, a social studies teacher at Cleveland Middle School, where she also serves as the social studies building-level curriculum coordinator and a Student Council sponsor, was selected for her notable achievements in teaching civics to a diverse population of students; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Ector received a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology and sociology and a Master of Science degree in secondary education from George Peabody College, where she also earned endorsements to teach history, government, psychology, geography, and sociology; and

WHEREAS, an international trainer for the Center for Civic Education, Barbara Ector serves as a consultant to two programs, We the People, The Citizen and the Constitution and Project Citizen; as a classroom teacher, she involved her students in showcases for both of these programs for which they have received superior and outstanding ratings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ector also serves as a trainer for Peaceable Schools, sponsored by the Tennessee Bar Association, which introduces educators and community service employees to basic principles of conflict resolution and methods for helping students learn skills of mediation, negotiation, and group problem solving; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her professional achievements, Barbara Ector still finds time to lend her talents to such notable causes as New Hope Pregnancy Center and as a panelist for the Tennessee Congressional Conference on Civic Education, NAACP Community Awareness, and the Lee University Diversity Weekend; she has served as a volunteer for the Unity Christian Ministries food pantry and clothes closet and coordinated a summer feeding program for United Christian Ministries; and

WHEREAS, she has contributed to the development of the REACH Adult High School, a second chance school for adult students and potential high school dropouts; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ector is also a facilitator and speaker for numerous women's workshops and conferences, currently serving as the Vice President of the Aldersgate Garden Club; she has also coordinated the Martin Luther King Dream Keepers Awards Program; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to accolades, Barbara Ector is the recipient of numerous awards and recognitions honoring her commitment to civic education, including selection as Cleveland Middle School's building level teacher of the year for 1991, 1997, 2003, 2004, and 2007, and the 2007 system-level Teacher of the Year for grades fifth through eighth; she was also nominated for the Walt Disney Teacher of the Year award in 2002 and 2003; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Ector is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, she truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Barbara Ector on being chosen to receive the American Civic Education Teacher Award for 2007, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.